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(See inside cover)

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CONTROL NO. Z-15785/86
NPIC/IEG (11/86)

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IMAGERY ANALYSIS BRIEF

Z-15785/86
NPIC/IEG/AAD
14 NOVEMBER 1986

25TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE MANAGUA, NICARAGUA 8 NOVEMBER 1986

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: A MILITARY PARADE OF SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS AND A LARGE DISPLAY OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SANDINISTA PARTY, WAS UNDERWAY IN NICARAGUA'S CAPITAL CITY OF MANAGUA. DESPITE REPORTS THAT A NEW AIR DEFENSE WEAPON SYSTEM WAS TO BE UNVEILED DURING THE CELEBRATIONS, NO WEAPONS NEW TO THE SANDINISTA INVENTORY WERE OBSERVED ON IMAGERY. ()

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2. REMARKS: ON () (U-2) IMAGERY OF 8 NOVEMBER, A CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 30,000 PEOPLE WAS WATCHING AS A LARGE MILITARY PARADE PREPARED TO PASS-IN-REVIEW AT THE EAST END OF THE PARADE AREA ALONG THE LAKESHORE IN NORTHERN MANAGUA (GRAPHIC 1). THIRTY-FIVE FORMATIONS, TOTALING OVER 5000 PERSONNEL, LED THE PARADE (GRAPHIC 2), FOLLOWED BY A LARGE REVIEW OF MILITARY HARDWARE (GRAPHIC 3). SIGNIFICANT ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT INVOLVED IN THE REVIEW INCLUDED: 55 T-54/55 TANKS; 13 BTR-60 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS (APC); 12 BRDM-2 APC; ARTILLERY INCLUDING 18 BM-21 MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS, 24 ZIS-2/3 ANTITANK GUNS, SIX 122MM HOWITZERS D-30, AND EIGHTEEN 152MM GUN/HOWITZERS D-20; ANTIAIRCRAFT (AA) WEAPONS TO INCLUDE SIX 37MM AA GUNS, SIX ZPU-4 AA GUNS, 24 ZU-23 AA GUNS, AND 12 ZPU-1 AA GUNS; TWO CONFIRMED AND ONE POSSIBLE FLAT FACE B AERIAL SURVEILLANCE RADARS; AND VARIOUS ITEMS OF ENGINEER AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT INCLUDING SEARCHLIGHT TRUCKS, TMM TRUCK-LAUNCHED BRIDGES, AND AMBULANCES. TWELVE ADDITIONAL ZIS-2/3 GUNS HAD BEEN SET UP ON LINE EAST OF THE REVIEWING STAND, PROBABLY TO PROVIDE CEREMONIAL SALUTES. ADDITIONAL PIECES OF SEVERAL EQUIPMENT TYPES LISTED ABOVE WERE IN RESERVE IN THE PARADE AREA, SERVING AS REPLACEMENTS

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FOR EQUIPMENT WHICH MIGHT BREAK DOWN PRIOR TO THE REVIEW. ADDITIONALLY, AT LEAST 15 HIP HELICOPTERS WERE OBSERVED IN THE CLOUD-FREE AREAS OF PUNTA HUETE AIRFIELD. THE HELICOPTERS WERE PARKED ON THE MAIN RUNWAY IN FIVE GROUPS OF THREE, PROBABLY PREPARING TO PARTICIPATE IN A FLY-BY OF THE PARADE AREA. [REDACTED]

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ANALYSTS' COMMENTS -- MILITARY ACTIVITY RELATED TO PARADE PREPARATION WAS OBSERVED AS EARLY AS [REDACTED] WHEN THE TANK BATTALION GARRISONED IN THE MANAGUA AREA AT EL TEMPISQUE ARMOR BATTALION HEADQUARTERS WAS PRACTICING DRIVING IN BATTALION FORMATION. THROUGHOUT OCTOBER, THE NUMBER AND TYPES OF UNITS INVOLVED IN PARADE PRACTICE INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, TO INCLUDE ELEMENTS OF TANK, MECHANIZED INFANTRY, ARTILLERY, AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT UNITS PRACTICING DRIVING IN LARGE FORMATIONS AT EITHER THE MANAGUA PARADE AREA OR AT MONTELIBAR AIRFIELD ON NICARAGUA'S WEST COAST. BY EARLY NOVEMBER, ALL THE EQUIPMENT AT MONTELIBAR HAD BEEN RELOCATED TO THE MANAGUA AREA, WHERE LARGE FORMATIONS OF PERSONNEL WERE SEEN PRACTICING MARCHING. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

ALTHOUGH THE CELEBRATIONS DID INVOLVE THE LARGEST DISPLAY OF MILITARY MIGHT YET MUSTERED BY THE SANDINISTAS, NO WEAPON SYSTEMS NEW TO THE NICARAGUAN INVENTORY WERE OBSERVED ON IMAGERY OF THE PARADE AREA. MOST OF THE EQUIPMENT INVOLVED IN THE PARADE WAS PROBABLY SUBORDINATE TO UNITS GARRISONED IN THE MANAGUA AREA WHICH CONSTITUTE THE SANDINISTA ARMY'S HIGH COMMAND RESERVE OR 'RAM'. THE MEDIUM TANKS AND APC'S ARE PROBABLY ELEMENTS OF THE ARMOR BRIGADE HEADQUARTERED AT

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LA QUEBRADITA MILITARY BARRACKS AREA. THE ARTILLERY IS PROBABLY SUBORDINATE TO THE RAM'S ARTILLERY BRIGADE GARRISONED AT CUAJACHILLO MILITARY BARRACKS AREA, WHERE BM-21, 152MM D-20, 122MM D-30, AND ANTITANK GUNS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED. OTHER UNITS PARTICIPATING IN THE REVIEW PROBABLY INCLUDED PORTIONS OF THE ENGINEER BATTALION AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE COMPANY GARRISONED AT SAN ISIDRO TRAINING FACILITY, ON NEARBY CHILTEPE PENINSULA. [REDACTED]

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3. **MANAGUA PARADE AREA**

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-09-40N 086-16-48W (S)

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MONTELMAR AIRFIELD

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 11-48-15N 086-30-42W (S)

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EL TEMPISQUE ARMOR BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-12-38N 086-20-25W (S)

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LA QUEBRADITA MILITARY BARRACKS AREA

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-07-15N 086-17-10W (S)

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CUAJACHILLO MILITARY BARRACKS AREA

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-07-36N 086-20-13W (S)

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SAN ISIDRO TRAINING FACILITY

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-12-29N 086-18-00W (S)

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PUNTA HUETE AIRFIELD

[REDACTED] COORDINATES 12-20-57N 086-11-00W (S)

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4. **COLLATERAL REFERENCES:** JCS WASHINGTON DC, DTG 151318Z SEP 86, 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE FSLN (U), (U)

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14 NOVEMBER 1986

DIA WASHINGTON DC/JSI-7, DTG 180351Z OCT 86, NICARAGUA:
ANNIVERSARY PARADE PREPARATIONS (U), ([REDACTED]) THE EXTRACTED
INFORMATION IS CLASSIFIED [REDACTED]

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5. ANALYSTS:
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[REDACTED]

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ATTACHED ARE THREE PHOTO PRINTS.

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25th Anniversary Parade

Managua, Nicaragua

8 November 1986

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Graphic 2

Graphic 3

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25th Anniversary Parade

Managua, Nicaragua

8 November 1986

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25th Anniversary Parade

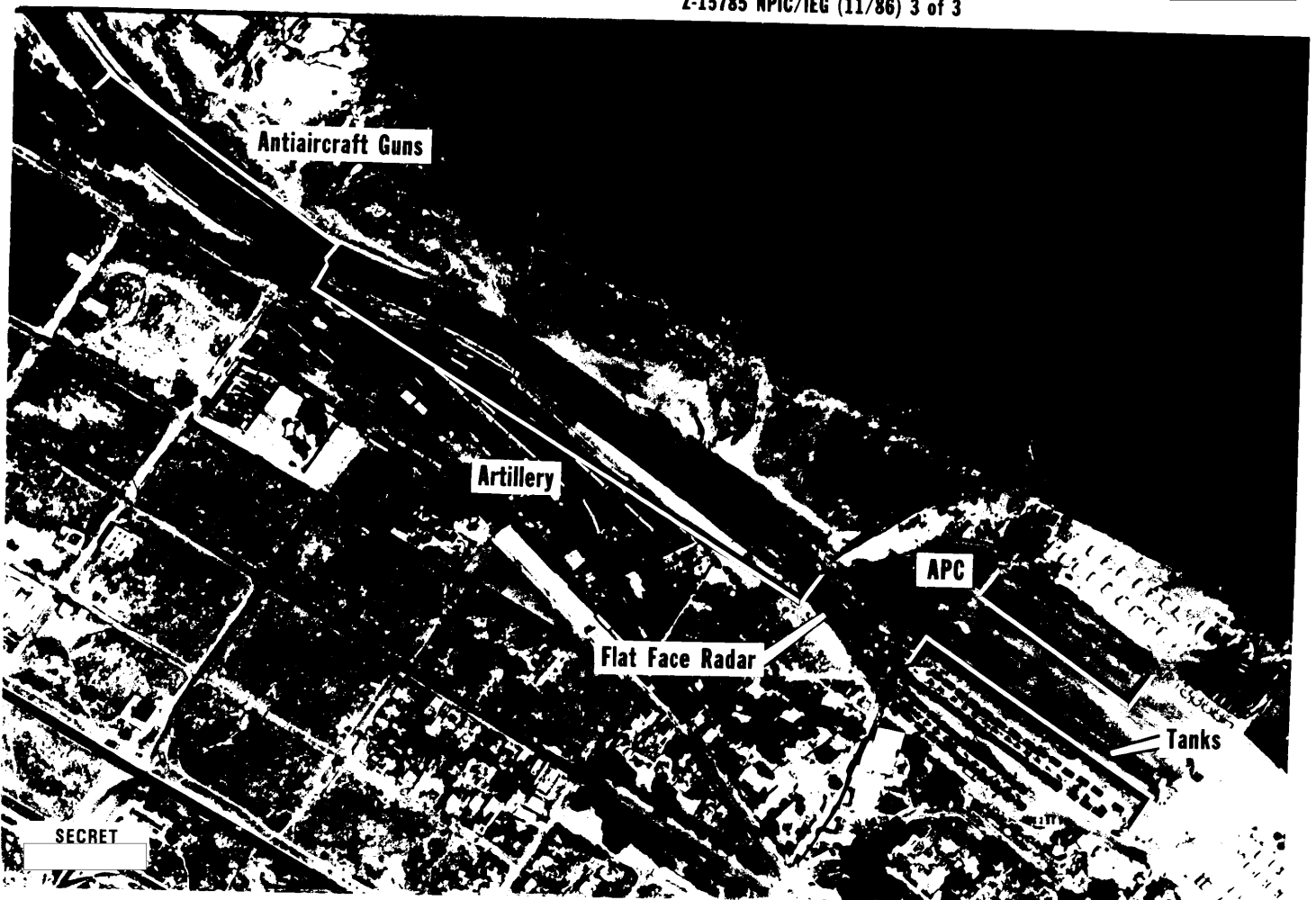
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